

Lesson No. 9

What Does the Bible Say About Our Duty Toward Our Fellow Men? (Commandments 7-10)

What Does It Teach Concerning the Purpose and the Fulfillment of the Law?

The Seventh Commandment.

***YOU SHALL NOT STEAL.**

1. How does God bless us with property?

THE BIBLE SAYS-

- (a) **1 Thessalonians 4:10-12.** But we urge you, brethren... to **work with your own hands**, as we commanded you, that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.
- (b) **Esther 9:20-22.** And Mordecai wrote these things... that they should make them days of feasting and joy, **of sending presents to one another and gifts to the poor.**
- (c) **2 Chronicles 21:1-3.** And Jehoshaphat rested with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the City of David. Then Jehoram his son reigned in his place. He had brothers, the sons of Jehoshaphat: Azariah, Jehiel, Zechariah, Azaryahu, Michael, and Shephatiah; all these were the sons of Jehoshaphat king of Israel. **Their father gave them great gifts of silver and gold and precious things, with fortified cities in Judah; but he gave the kingdom to Jehoram**, because he was the firstborn.

FROM THIS WE LEARN-

God blesses us with earthly goods:

- (A) By our working for a living.
- (B) By gifts received from other people.
- (C) By the handing down of inheritance.

2. What is the meaning of this commandment?

THE BIBLE SAYS-

- (a) **Leviticus 19:11.** You shall not steal, nor deal falsely, nor lie to one another.
- (a) **Jeremiah 22:13.** Woe to him who builds his house **by unrighteousness** and his chambers by injustice, who uses his neighbor's service without wages and **gives him nothing** for his work.
- (a) **2 Thessalonians 3:10.** If anyone **will not work, neither shall he eat.**
- (b) **1 Corinthians 13:4,5.** Love does not envy..., does not seek its own.
- (c) **1 Peter 4:10.** As each one has received a gift, **minister it to one another**, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

FROM THIS WE LEARN-

We should **NOT**

- (A) Wrongfully acquire our neighbor's property (robbery; theft; fraud; charging exorbitant prices or excessive interest; gambling; betting; paying unfair wages; unfaithfulness towards an employer; unscrupulous borrowing; idleness).
- (B) Envy him, or be selfish.

We **SHOULD**

- (C) Remember that we are but stewards, or trustees, of all that we call our own, and use whatever has been entrusted to us to the glory of God and the benefit of our fellow men.

The Eighth Commandment.

***YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST YOUR NEIGHBOR.**

3. What is the meaning of this commandment?

THE BIBLE SAYS-

- (a b) **Proverbs 19:5.** A **false witness** will not go unpunished, and he who speaks lies will not escape.
- (c) **Proverbs 11:13.** A **talebearer reveals secrets**, but he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter.
- (d) **James 4:11. Do not speak evil of one another**, brethren.
- (e) **Zechariah 8:17.** Let none of you **think evil** in your heart against your neighbor; and do not love a false oath. For all these are things that I hate, says the LORD.
- (f) **1 Samuel 19:4.** Thus **Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father**, and said to him, “Let not the king sin against his servant, against David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his works have been very good toward you.”
- (g) **1 Peter 4:8. Love will cover a multitude of sins.**
- (g) **1 Corinthians 13:7.** (Love) bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

FROM THIS WE LEARN-

We should **NOT**

- (A) Make any untrue statement against our neighbor in court;
- (B) Lie about him or to him, or withhold the truth from him in order to harm him;
- (C) Deceitfully reveal his secrets or abuse his confidence;
- (D) Speak evil of him and thus injure or destroy his good name;
- (E) Think evil of him.

We **SHOULD**

- (F) Defend our neighbor against false accusations and speak well of him;
- (G) Cover up his faults and explain in his favor whatever can be so explained.

The Ninth and Tenth Commandments.

***YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE.**

***YOU SHALL NOT COVET THY NEIGHBOR'S WIFE, NOR HIS MANSERVANT, NOR HIS MAIDSERVANT, NOR HIS CATTLE, NOR ANYTHING THAT IS YOUR NEIGHBOR'S.**

4. What is the meaning of these commandments?

THE BIBLE SAYS-

- (a) **Romans 7:7.** I would not have **known covetousness** unless the law had said, You **shall not covet**.
- (a b) **1 Timothy 6:8-10.** And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. But those who **desire to be rich** fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For **the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil**, for which some have strayed from the faith in their **greediness**, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.
- (b) **Leviticus 19:2.** You shall **be holy**, for I the LORD your God am holy.
- * (b) Psalm 37:4. Delight yourself also in the LORD**, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.

FROM THIS WE LEARN-

- (A) We should **NOT** have any evil desires in our hearts, or seek to get our neighbor's property by trickery or a show of right (envy; jealousy; greed; discontent). In God's sight every evil desire, or lust, is sin and deserves condemnation.
- (B) We **SHOULD** have only holy desires in our hearts. Then we will be content with such things as God gives us, find our happiness in Him, and help our neighbor to keep that which is his.

THE FULFILLMENT AND THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW.

5. How does God want us to keep His commandments?

THE BIBLE SAYS-

Matthew 5:48. Therefore you shall be **perfect**, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

James 2:10. For whoever shall keep the whole law, and **yet stumble in one point**, he is **guilty of all**.

FROM THIS WE LEARN-

God wants us to keep all His commandments perfectly in thoughts, desires, words, and deeds.

6. With what does God threaten all that transgress His commandments?

THE BIBLE SAYS-

Galatians 3:10. Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.

Romans 6:23. For the wages of sin is **death**.

FROM THIS WE LEARN-

God threatens all transgressors of His commandments with His wrath and displeasure, temporal death and eternal damnation.

7. Can man keep God's commandments as He wants us to keep them?

THE BIBLE SAYS-

(a) **Psalm 14:3.** They have **all turned aside**, they have together **become corrupt**; there is **none who does good**, no, not one.

*(a) **Isaiah 64:6.** But we are **all** like an **unclean** thing, and all our righteousnesses are like **filthy rags**.

(b) **Philippians 3:12.** Not that I have already attained, or am already **perfected**; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

*(b) **Psalm 143:2.** Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for in Your sight **no one living is righteous**.

FROM THIS WE LEARN-

(A) Since the fall into sin natural man cannot keep the Law of God at all.

(B) Even Christians can keep it only imperfectly.

8. Can anyone, then, be saved by the Law?

THE BIBLE SAYS--

Galatians 3:11. **No one** is justified by the law in the sight of God.

FROM THIS WE LEARN-

No one can be saved, or get to heaven, by means of the Law.

9. What, then, is the purpose of the Law?

THE BIBLE SAYS-

(a) **1 Timothy 1:9.** The law is not made for a righteous person, but for the **lawless and insubordinate**, for the **ungodly and for sinners**, for the **unholy and profane**, for **murderers** of fathers and murderers of mothers, for **manslayers**.

*(b) **Romans 3:20.** By the law is the **knowledge of sin**.

(b) **Romans 7:7.** I would not have known **covetousness** unless the law had said, **You shall not covet**.

(c) **Psalm 119:9.** How can a young man cleanse his way? By **taking heed according to Your word**.

FROM THIS WE LEARN-

The Law

(A) Checks to some extent the coarse outbursts of sin and thereby helps to keep order in the world. (A **curb**.)

(B) Shows us our sins. (A **mirror**.) This is the chief purpose.

(C) Teaches us Christians which works we must do to lead a God-pleasing life. (A **rule**.)

10. Where alone can we find salvation from sin?

THE BIBLE SAYS-

(a) **Romans 10:4.** For Christ is the **end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes**.

(b) **Galatians 3:13.** **Christ has redeemed us** from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us for it is written, Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.

FROM THIS WE LEARN-

We find salvation only in the Gospel, which tells us that Christ as our Substitute

(A) Fulfilled the Law for us; and

(B) Suffered and died for us.

Before the Next Lesson

FILL OUT Work Sheet No. 9.

MEMORIZE the Bible passages marked with an asterisk (*).



READ Exodus, chapters 7 to 13.

Work Sheet No. 9.

1.

Communists point out that under our present social system some people are poor while others are rolling in wealth. They insist that this inequality must be abolished. What does the Bible say concerning this matter? (Deuteronomy 15:11; 1 Chronicles 29:12; Ecclesiastes 5:19; Matthew 26:11).

.....

.....

.....

2.

(Check whether true or false.)

- (A) Raffling and other forms of gambling are to be condemned even when they are used to raise money for churches or charitable purposes. True. False.
- (B) Charging interest is always permissible. True. False.
- (C) We may do with our money what we please. True. False.
- (D) We should listen sympathetically when someone complains to us about his neighbor. True. False.
- (E) Isaiah 5:8 condemns modern monopolies. True. False.
- (F) Money is the root of all evil. True. False.
- (G) God is satisfied if we try to do what is right. True. False.
- (H) Even Christians are not without sin. True. False.
- (I) The chief purpose of the Ten Commandments is to keep us from doing wrong. True. False.

3.

(Supply the missing words.)

“The wages of sin is death,” - temporal death, spiritual death, and eternal death (death is separation).

- (A) Temporal death is the separation of the..... from the (see Ecclesiastes 12:7).
- (B) Spiritual death is the separation of the from (see Ephesians 2:1; Isaiah 59:2).
- (C) Eternal death is the..... separation of the..... and the..... from..... (see Matthew 25:41).

4.

(Check the correct statement.)

We are saved from the penalty of sin

- (A) By ceasing from sin;
- (B) By believing in Jesus Christ, our Savior;
- (C) By doing good.